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OPW Report No. 52 -- COMMUNIST CHINA

(Dec. 8 - 14, 1952)

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1. (1b) Sino-Soviet Friendship:

Shanghai stated (Dec. 9) that 80 percent of East China's people had been "educated in Sino-Soviet Friendship" and understood its importance in maintaining world peace. Mukden said (Dec. 14) that 90 percent of Northeast urban and 70 percent of the rural population had received SSF education, with 50 forms of propaganda used. In Liaozi 200,000 cadres promoted SSF Month. The TUNG PEI JIH PAO claimed that SSF Month propaganda activities far exceeded those of any previous promotion, but still the situation was not satisfactory in some localities.

Peking announced (Dec. 8) that the day's SSF program included talks by four Russians, including the mother of Soviet heroes Zoya and Shura. Dairen stated (Dec. 8) that 200,000 local persons saw Soviet films, that paint factory workers were organizing to emulate the Soviet hero Shura, and model farmers planned to emulate Russia by collectivizing agriculture.

Sian announced (Dec. 10) that local bookstores sold 91,000 Soviet books during SSF Month, "Tales of Zoya and Shura" being the most popular. Chungking said (Dec. 9) that as a result of SSF Month, Southwest soldiers had "greatly increased their love for the USSR," while cadres were urging emulation of Zoya and Shura.

Dairen announced (Dec. 8) that SSF Month had made local peasants realize the importance of Soviet assistance in the defense of Dairen and Port Arthur, and led them to help Soviet armed forces repair roads and coal ships. Hangchow reported (Dec. 12) that the Young Pioneers held an encampment, "demonstrating the love of the Young Pioneers for the USSR." The Red Army song and dance ensemble gave nine performances, with 82,000 children listening to the broadcasts.

Peking in numeral code (Dec. 9) reviewed Sino-Soviet "cultural exchanges," from the presence of Soviet representatives at establishment of the Central People's Government to SSF Month visits. More than 3,000 Soviet books had been translated into Chinese, and five Chinese books and three dramas translated into Russian were named.

2. (1b) SSFA Expansion:

Peking asserted in numeral code (Dec. 10) that SSFA membership in China's seven major cities now exceeded five million, while Chekiang farmers "hurried 10 miles" to secure membership application forms. Harbin had added 80 branch offices; 10,000 rural organizations were set up in Ninghsia Province; in Kangting, Sikang, 150 joined, including a living Buddha; and in Lushan, Kweichow, a Miao tribesman 103 years old braved a rainstorm to "become a friend of the Soviet Union."

Shanghai reported (Dec. 8) that the Nanking SSFA had 165,000 members and 407 local chapters. Kunming said (Dec. 8) that 3,400 people in Chaotung Hsien, Szechwan, joined the SSFA, and added (Dec. 9) that in Kunming the masses had joined the SSFA; and now understood that China's liberation and postwar construction were "entirely due to the fraternal aid of their older brothers of the USSR."

3. (1c) Soviet Superiority:

Dairen stated (Dec. 9) that information on progressive Soviet experiences led local railway workers to enthusiastic emulation. Tsinan asserted (Dec. 8) that local railway workers increased efficiency in overhauling locomotives by adopting Soviet methods. Canton said (Dec. 8) that Soviet methods had improved safety operations on the Chuchiang Section of the Canton Railway Administration.

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Shanghai (Dec. 9) said "the leadership of the USSR in the world peace camp" had been emphasized through a study of 19th Congress documents. Canton reported (Dec. 8) that 35,000,000 people in Kwangtung had been deeply impressed by Soviet films. Kunming claimed (Dec. 9) that local students had learned to appreciate superior Soviet science, literature, and culture, while workers had overcome their feudalistic thinking and "worship of Anglo-American ways."

Sian announced (Dec. 8) that local youths had written letters to Russia promising to make China similar to the USSR. Sian added (Dec. 10) that Northwest PLA units had "loudly proclaimed" their desire to emulate Soviet military tactics and techniques, and "are being reorganized to promote emulation of the Red Army."

4. (1c) Soviet Technical Guidance:

Peking in numeral code (Dec. 14) announced that Soviet agricultural scientists had been invited to China for lecture tours, and quoted a Chinese scientist as praising the direction already given by the Russians: "We are sincerely grateful for the cordial assistance of Soviet scientists and biologists. We thank comrade Stalin, and will live up to the expectations of the Soviet people and scientists."

Dairen said (Dec. 8) that Chinese workers in the Sino-Soviet shipyard were grateful for Soviet construction methods taught them by Plant Chief Kosnikov.

5. (2a) War Propaganda:

Peking asserted (Dec. 14) that the Chinese Quartermaster Corps in Korea had operated 800 trucks 40,000 kilometers without a mishap. Peking stated (Dec. 8) that a South Korean lieutenant defected to North Korea with an American reconnaissance plane. Peking added in numeral code (Dec. 14) that four Koreans captured by the Americans and forced to return to North Korea as spies immediately reported to North Korean authorities.

6. (2b) Grain Levies:

Chengte announced (Dec. 8) that in order to increase grain collections the cooperatives "have overcome the hesitancy of the peasants and signed contracts with them for the delivery of grain against commodity purchase." Chengte stated (Dec. 11) that "after the bitter experience" of purchasing 2,000 catties of grain individually, the Weichang Hsien, Jehol, Cooperative ordered farmers to sell collectively.

Chungking reported (Dec. 13) that peasants in Tungnan, Yuehchi, and Huayang Hsien, Szechwan, had protested against tactics of cadres, who used conscription, threats, and intimidation to force them to join cooperatives.

7. (2c) Trade and Production Problems:

Chengte reported (Dec. 8) that Jehol cooperatives had "satisfied the needs of the masses" by giving goods to private merchants to sell on commission, and that "many villages now are demanding this service."

Paoing stated (Dec. 10) that Tangshan, Hopei, authorities had limited work days to 12 hours, as some employees were found to be working 18 hours. Chungking reported (Dec. 11) that farm loans by Southwest China banks were 90 percent higher than last year.

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Canton asserted (Dec. 8) that Kwangtung state trading companies were lowering prices to promote private trade, and assuring merchants a profit. Chungking said (Dec. 12) that Sikang tea and salt prices had been reduced to encourage private traders.

8. (3a) Moves Toward Russification:

Chengte announced (Dec. 10) that Party leaders had demanded improvement in work of low-level Party cadres, "who have been lax and are setting a poor example," and suggested they read proceedings of the Soviet 19th Party Congress, "which will open their eyes and correct their misconceptions of international affairs"; Mukden announced (Dec. 13) that Northeast Government officials had completed studying Part One of Malenkov's report. Dairen said (Dec. 11) that local Russian classes had been organized for teachers and cultural workers.

Mukden announced (Dec. 13) that the local Party committee had organized inspection teams to "supervise production progress." Anshan stated (Dec. 8) that the city government and Anshan steel mills planned to promote security work by offering model awards to workers. Shanghai said (Dec. 11) that the East China Government had demanded more care in handling informers' letters and interviews, and further investigations of their reports. Charges were filed against officials who jailed Informer Liu Fang-ping for reporting cadre irregularities.

Canton asserted (Dec. 8) that 19,000 local workers had been indoctrinated in Communism, and realized that the Communist Party is the leader in the working class. Peking reported in numeral code (Dec. 12) that Youth Corps cadres and teachers had been instructed to promote the Young Pioneers among school children, using regular school funds to be allotted by the Youth Corps and the Board of Education. Cadres directing the promotion could reduce their teaching load up to three-fourths, but could not give up all teaching "due to the lack of qualified teachers."

Chengte reported (Dec. 11) that the Party committees of four Jehol hsien had learned to attack capitalist ideology in rural areas rather than arbitrarily use their authority. Work at first had not progressed because leaders either failed to understand directives or tried to rush them through.

9. (3c) Judicial Changes:

Shanghai announced (Dec. 12) that the local Yangmatou District Court cleared its dockets of 73 pending cases in 9 days by "mobilizing the masses to assist in the settlement." Shanghai marriage and divorce cases were removed from court jurisdiction, with the police henceforth to handle all registrations. Sian stated (Dec. 12) that after indoctrination, 760 judicial cadres in Kansu, Ninghsia, and Shensi "corrected their points of view and mobilized the masses to settle pending cases."

10. (4) Anglo-American Dissension:

Peking asserted in numeral code (Dec. 12) that U.S. foreign investments had increased 200 percent, while British investments decreased 50 percent, in a fight for domination of world markets. Even Commonwealth countries were subject to encroachment, with U.S. investments replacing Britain in Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Ceylon, India, and Pakistan. Through Point Four, which along with the Marshall Plan was intended to boost U.S. investments, America had entirely replaced Britain as the exploiter of India.

The unilateral Japanese Treaty combined American capital and cheap Japanese labor to shatter British Southeast Asia markets. Japanese exports to India, Pakistan, and Malaya in 1951 jumped 150 to 300 percent, "all at the expense of the British." Peking added in numeral code (Dec. 14) that the "ruling circles of Britain" had permitted serious American encroachments "upon the sovereign rights of Britain."

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